Tamworth 4WD Club Newsletter - FEB 2024

PO Box 3345
West Tamworth
NSW 2340

Club Meetings -

2nd Tuesday each month. 6:30pm at St Johns Hall.

72 Napier Street, Tamworth.

(Diagonally opposite Anzac Park)

Last meeting : 13th Feb 2024. 6:30pm.

Next meeting : MONDAY 11th Mar 2024. 6:30pm.

Facebook : Tamworth 4wd Club

Facebook : Tamworth 4wd Club (Financial Members)

tam4wdclub@hotmail.com

Tamworth 4wd Club

Tamworth 4wd Club is a family orientated club. We cater for family participation in recreational four wheel driving and camping trips into bushland areas of the great natural beauty and attraction. Club trips can be one day or weekend drives into the state forests and national parks of the local area. Trips of longer duration to various parts of Australia (Simpson Desert, Fraser Island, Cape York, Victorian High Country) are planned annually and in advance. The choice of trips you take is entirely yours, from easy scenic trips to beautiful areas of near inaccessible terrain. Other clubs activities include social outings, bush camping, bush walking, fishing, driver training days, Christmas-in-July social weekend, demonstrations and inter-club activities.

Association website : https://4wdnow.com
Association newsletters: https://4wdnow.com/pages/newsletters

2023-2024 Committee

President	- (Acting) Col Middleton	e: president.tam4wdclub@gmail.com
Vice President	- Dave Maunder	
Secretary	- Jodie Thompson	e: secretary.tam4wdclub@gmail.com
Treasurer	- Leanne Middleton	e: treasurer.tam4wdclub@gmail.com
Association Delegate	- Dave Maunder	e: delegate.tam4wdclub@gmail.com
Publicity Officer	- Adrian Altona	
Equipment Officer	- Paul Ellison	
Newsletter Editor	- Dave Maunder	
Public Officer	- Graeme Hodge	
Driver Awareness Officers	- Graeme Hodge, Leanne Middleton, Dave Maunder	
Trip Advisors	- Graeme Hodge, Leanne Middleton, Paul Ellison, Dave Maunder	

Mailing address
*** removed ***
[Insert Leanne's address here]

BANK DETAILS
Tamworth 4WD Club
BSB 032-621
Account Number 895405

Tamworth 4wd Club

Editors Dribblings

Hi Everyone,
Happy new year. Even though half of the year has nearly already gone. Where does the time go? Anyone?

Four days around New Years Eve was spent at Ponda Rosa in cloud the entire time there. Sat around a fire each night. Top of about 16 during the day whilst it was sweltering down off the mountain.

Aus day long weekend was u-beaut too; very hot on the first two days and spent the time in the river. Next day was some 40mm, and cooled off considerably.

Maggie at the Association has created a new Association newsletter page : https://4wdnow.com/pages/newsletters

Due to rising costs, it was decided that the Club not renew our Post Office box.

And due to cadets using the hall the same date/time, elected to move meetings to the second Monday evenings of the month. Next meeting will be 11th Mar 2024., 6:30pm

AGM is set for the Monday 13 May, 6:30pm.

So much work & dollars are being put into a few of the vehicles that are heading to the Vic High Country. This here going camping for a few weeks is getting rather expensive.

And, as Graeme says, “Keep the shiny side up”.

Dave

Tamworth 4wd Club Monthly Meeting. 13/feb 2024

Meeting opened: 6:33pm. 6 members present.
Members in attendance: Paul, Mel, Leanne, Jodie, Rick, Dave
Apologies: Jodie, Adrian, Chrissy., Katrina, Graeme, Adrian, Colin
Chair: Paul Visitors Scott

Warm welcomes to our visitor Scott.

Business arising
Jodie : bank details to Leanne.
Jodie -> Graeme. Address re: fair trading to be sorted.

Financials
- Reserve account: $3091.42
- Working account:$300.80. Will be $233
(Jodie: refunded money to be paid to Jodie for Fair Trading.). Moved: Dave

New Business
- Was agreed upon & passed that the club kill off our PO Box.
  This is due to not being used, and increasing annual costs.
  Newsletter to be updated and advisement of companies.

- Due to cadets using the hall the same date/time, elected to move meetings to Monday.
  From March onwards, meeting nights will be second Monday of the month.
  Next meeting will be 11th Mar 2024., 6:30pm Tis the first change in days in ~20 years.

- April meeting : 8th April, 6:30pm. Might be up in the air, as a number of members will be on their way to High Country.

- AGM to be Monday 13 May, 6:30pm.
- It was requested by the Clubs acting acting Chair, that all members attempt to attend a minimum of three meetings a year.

Correspondence in
- Ballina, Grafton newsletters re-forwarded in & re-forwarded out to members.
- Toowoomba car club for Tam 4wd Club to put on a display at their show.
- Dept of fair trading letter. (Jodie to speak to Graeme)
- Aus Post Bill.
- Jan and/or Feb Association newsletter

Correspondence Out
- Dec Clubs Newsletters to members, clubs and sponsors.
- Dec/Jan/Feb Association newsletter email out to members.

Meeting ended: 7:00pm

TRIPS AND TRIP IDEAS

Attunga Forest recky day trip. (Paul) To be announced as a day outing. Probably sooner than later. Announcement may be on the Facebook group.

Family Fun Day Weekend - Richard.
A family fun day weekend (invite out to the public) to entice potential new club members. Three legged races for kids, novelty course. Billy boiling competition from nix, Cook off comp and/or camp oven night.

Terri-Hie-Hie to Ningulailly Pub - Richard.
Cruisey trip sightseeing the partial outback and end up at a pub.
Discussion about trip—may need to be a long weekend due to the five plus hour drive out. Further investigation on suitable time.
To be confirmed / thought out / designed.

Vic High Country - Col. April 2024.
See details over a few pages.

Mt Kaputar – Col. Date to be set and further info to be found.

Gloucester to Werrikimbe via back roads – Col.

Coffs Harbour Trip – Paul. Date to be set
Mountains and Pebbly Beach.

Taylors Arm – Paul. Date to be set.

Coolah Tops trip – Dave.
Postponed until main forest road gates are re-opened.
Even with gates closed, can still go to two waterfalls (when not in drought), and around five camping locations. Need to book via National Parks.

New Years Eve—unofficial trip—to Ponda Rosa.

Sunday 29th Dec, hooked up the van and toddled off up to Ponda Rosa by myself as the wifey stayed at home for work & to feed the animals.
Arrived, my oldies were already there, along with their friends. Set up. Went for a drive with my old man to look for my lost sunglasses during the Dec Sheba Dam trip. After 15 minutes of looking gave up, collected some fire-wood, back to camp. Turned off ute. Two days later tried to start ute and had nothing; not even the starter solenoid. Turned out to be the dopey battery terminals! We all spent the next four days in the mist / drizzle and a tad bit of rain. Huddled around a fire each and every night. Rick & Katrina dropped in one day for 20 minutes whilst driving around. Some young p-plater dude pulled in in a hurry on the morn of the 31st. Had a hole in his tyre with noone here having plugs and his spare apparently didn't fit. Did a dodgie with a tek screw which didn't work. He finally gave in and tried the spare - (didn't have jack). Spare fitted.... ! Wifey arrived on the 31st Dec. We were all in bed by 9pm that night. Came home at lunch time on the 1st/Jan.

COCO 2024

May 18th - 19th

Mudgee NSW

> Cook off on Saturday
> 5.30pm nibbles
> Trivia Saturday night
> Quarterly meeting on Sunday morning (tea and coffee and lunch provided)
> Plenty of powered sites, caravans and camper trailers welcome.
> Hot showers & toilets
> $32 per person for 3 nights camping (Fri, Sat, Sun)
> Kids under 15 are free

Fancy one of these?
Don't forget to sign up
for the Cook Off.

BOOK NOW ! https://benefits.4wdnow.com

CAMP OVEN COOK OFF
MUDGEE 2024

FOR SALE:

YOUR AD VERT HERE

4sale Kings Rooftop Tent
$1500 ono in very good condition.

See Paul Ellison.

Introducing the Tamworth 4wd Club Stubby Cooler. $10.00 each.

Contact Paul Ellison, or tam4wdclub@hotmail.com

The Farm (Forbes River Road) - Australia Day long weekend trip report. 25-29 Jan

5pm Thursday arvo we headed off , after packing the arvo before. Arrived just before 9pm. Got out of the car, hot & bothered, and went for a quick swim.
Had a bite to eat; sat around yabbering with others until a bit after 11pm, and hit the swag. Breaky in the morning, warmed up very quickly, and most of us hit the river. By lunch time there were around 11 vehicles and some 18 people. One of the fellows from Port Mac brought along a big marquee and himself & his son mounted it in the river. A few of us wandered down , helped moving rocks out to create a beaut hole underneath the roof, and we laid back and relaxed in the water for hours on end. With a hot northerly blowing on us, that is pretty much what most of us did for the entire day - In and out of the water.
The following day clouds formed and by 11am the forecasted 'up-to-40mm' had started. With the rain throughout the day, it had also cooled off to the point where only a few ventured into the water earlier in the day before the river had started to rise. No idea on how much rain we had of course, but, by 7pm in the evening the river was hitting the banks both sides. It had to have come up by a good metre if not more from the day before.
During the day peeps spent playing games under the cover of the shelter, and, pretty much most others just ate.
By 9pm some of us were just starting to think about maybe becoming a little concerned about the continued rising water. But at some point the rain had eased, and by the next morning, the river level had dropped back down a bit.

We were the first to leave Sunday morning;. Another awesome weekend up Forbes River Road; huge thanks to the owners Rick & Kerrie for allowing us to stay on their place year after year.

[No pics were taken coz of slackness]

Bill Oddie in the Goodies was the first bloke to do a “shoey” on television. 1978.

Remember this night? What a night it was !

Road Mapping Membership

- **Marketing**
- **First contact**
- **Second contact**
- **Becoming a member**
- **Engagement**
- **Being a member**
- **Training**
- **Departure consultation**

Marketing,

- Word of mouth / Other club members' recommendations
- Club newsletter – publicly available.
- Club suppliers/sponsors
- Public displays (4wd shows, sponsor open days, Community events)
- Volunteering (community, State agencies, sporting events, ad-hoc)
- Facebook/Twitter/Instagram or other social platforms
- Websites
- State Association
- Club Merchandise (Stickers on Cars, caps, shirts etc)

First contact (this needs to be the right person; we find a female is the best suited)

- What are they looking for in a club, and what is their location?
- What our club offers, its structure and years of operation or formed year.
- Overview of club assets, club property, Satellite phone, Defib, First Aid, recovery equipment, club trailers, Club vehicle registration etc. (you are adding value to the membership fee)
- Discounts with local suppliers that the club has negotiated (again, value)
- Iconic 4wd destination that the club has done and planning to do.
- What vehicle do they own, and what modifications and type of 4wdriving are they looking for? (If you don't offer it, you may save wasting time)
- Ask about any formal training; expand on your club's training.
- Have they been or are a member of another 4wd club (yes, enquire why they are not now or why they are looking at you)
- Give precise meeting locations, times & the person they need to find at the meeting.
- Ask if they want to be added to the club mailing list.
- Exchange personal contact numbers so if they have questions, they can ask the same person, or if things change, you can also contact them.

Second contact

- Greeting one on one and explaining the meeting process before the meeting starts
- Develop a Meet a Guest form (much more manageable than putting someone on the spot in front of a group of strangers)
- Introduce the visitor to the club via information from the Meet a Guest Form
- If more than one guest, have extra club champions sit with the other guest and give the same information.
- Introduce your visitor to other members during breaks in the meeting process.
- Avoid talking about challenging trips, vehicle modifications, trips that needed recovery, or personal innuendos about other members like being drunk, loud, snoring, party animal etc.; in context, it may be funny, but to a visitor, it could be the lead balloon.
- Clearly explain the process of getting information, how to book a trip, the joining fee, if applicable and the membership annual fee and renewal month.
- Offer any pre-joining benefits, i.e., can attend a trip/event or two before joining or parting with their money (at the club's discretion.)
- The chair of the meeting should also be conscious of any robust deliberation at meetings and the need to keep it in check. This may deter prospective members if they feel in a hostile environment.

Becoming a member

- Cover the procedure and the responsibilities of being a member.
- Welcome pack and announcement at a meeting of the new membership.
- Process all required paperwork promptly.
- Add to clubs' socials (with their consent, the best way to see more information without asking).

Engagement (all members)

- General meetings need to be worth the trip; meetings should run for around two hours; members pay their membership to obtain more than just driving skills and locations; they also want information about what's happening, where the club committee is investing its time, future projects and directions, what's new in the world of 4wdriving, Special guests, new products, verbal trip reports, nasty stuff on social media, members profiles, members builds/improvements/failures. Try moving the coffee break to the middle of the meeting, not the end of the meeting, and this helps interaction between members instead of filing out the door at the end of the meeting.

- Run your meeting to an agenda (structure is your best friend)
- Always try and have something for general business at the end of committee reports; this helps in open conversations and can lead to more subjects and or ideas.
- Contact all your club members on a weekly/regular arrangement; this will help keep the club at the forefront of members' thoughts (remember, its most likely if you are reading this that you are on the committee or a member who has a passion for your club), this can be harder than you think but important, some examples, weekly joke, Did you know (trivia), weekly recipe, club suppliers weekly specials, old trip reports from the archive, you get the drift.
- Monthly or bi-monthly Zoom meetings (Outside of Club meetings as a social event like a Zoom happy hour one Sunday a Month). This helps members who can't make meetings to stay engaged with members.
- Share information from other clubs, State Association newsletters
- Share milestones by members to the whole club as you would with a family member.

Being a member (reading the signs)

- Needs to be done at their pace; putting timeframes can contribute to why new members feel they are not getting value from their membership.
- Some people just want to belong or have a specific reason, like insurance benefits, supplier discounts or classic registration. (Great members as they are like silent partners, happy to help pay the bills) **consider this membership if your club has a minimum requirement about attending club meetings to stay a member.**
- Dynamic members are also great as they bring new life to old trips and events. Mostly likely end up on the committee.

Training

- Clubs may use 4wd training as the main reason to join a club; club rules, you must be at a pre-set standard by the club before being able to attend different level trips, so a very high focus and resources put into training the new members and once they have it, they leave the club. Why, I think they don't get to know the club and its members as they are too busy trying to do the training so they can be a whole part of the club by attending all trips. So how do you, as a club, address the possible issue? Look at a buddy system for members who want more challenging trips but haven't completed the training (trip leader's discretion). Spread out the training weekends so you must be in the club for a couple of years before you can complete all the training; this may give the new member time to become an older member as

Departure

- Try understanding why members haven't renewed their membership; it may help shape the above document.
- Membership is not a one-way street; clubs invest much energy into members, with the process, insurance, training, education and, most importantly, an experience that can only be gained from foundation/long-serving members.

Victoria High Country April 2024 – General Plan

Day 1. 8th April. 320km. Leaving Tamworth 8th April 2024.Meet in Dubbo (Bunnings) on Mitchell Highway. Travelling to Cootamundra. 321 km. Find a camp site.

Day 2. 9th April. 269km. Junee, Gundagai, Tarcutta, Holbrook & Yackandandah. Site seeing along the way.

Day 3. 10th April. 72km, 111km. Yackandandah, Beechworth, Glenrowan (explore area). 72km. On to Mansfield via Whitfield. Find a camp for two days. 111km.

Day 4. 11th April. 62km. Mansfield to Craig's Hut, overnight in swags. Rough track lo-range driving for part.

Day 5. 12th April. 0km. Rest Day.

Day 6. 13th April. 281km. Mansfield to Omeo. Sight seeing along the way. Find a campsite. Base camp.

Day 7. 14th April. Explore the area over following days, with rest day. We then set a plan each night to see areas, such as Casillis, numerous huts, Blur Rag range, Dogs Grave, Falls Creek, overnight swag trip to Dargo. Bright, Mount Hotham, Mount Beauty.

Day 12. 19th April. 100km. Head towards Tom Groggin. Possible 3 nights. Exploring Kosciusko National Park.

Day 15. 22nd April. To be decided and worked out.

Day 18. 25th April. 1200 km.

Heading towards home on the 25th, to be home on the 27th April.

This itinery is not set in stone - there will be a meeting & BBQ at Col & Leanne's closer to the date and when it is known who will be attending the trip, to see what others would like to see and do during the trip.

Please notify Col and/or Leanne as soon as you can if you are coming on this Vic High Country trip. Ph: Col 0407 617 442 or Leanne 0408 605 343.

Three week trip. Pack for cold & wet weather. Possible snow. Be prepared !
Grade trip from one through to a hard three (out of a rating of five).
Majority of the trip will be cruisey grade one.

Max number of vehicles on trip : 8 vehicles.

Current list going :
Col & Leanne Middleton
Paul Ellison & Mel Bridge
Dave & Karma Walters
Graeme Hodge as a high possibility.
Dave & Chrissy Maunder

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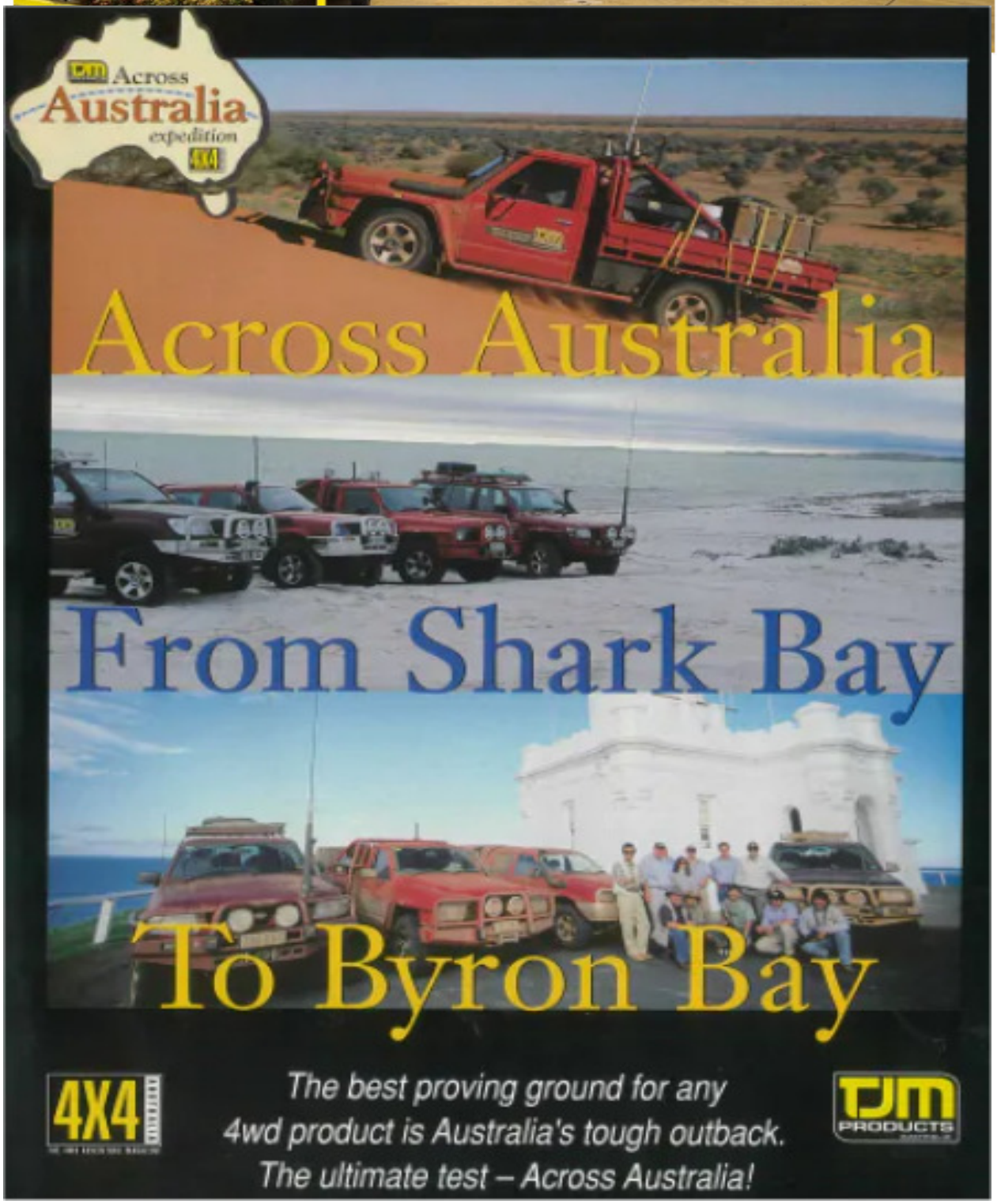
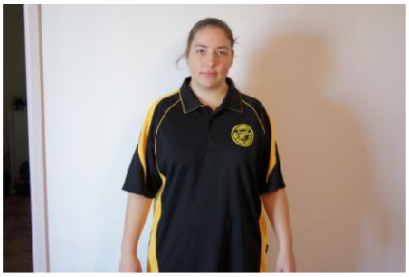
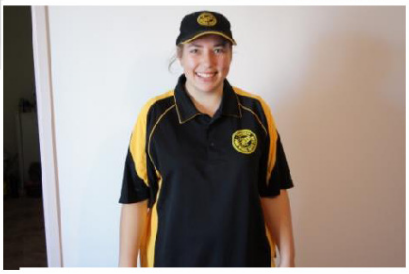
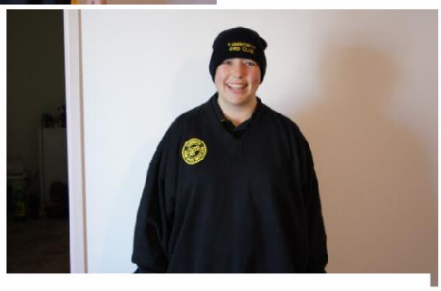


Trip Leader Responsibilities

- The trip leader is responsible for ensuring that the trip is conducted in a safe and responsible manner.
- All members who reserve a place in your trip should be recorded, their phone number and an emergency contact number taken. This will allow you to advise them if the conditions change or to contact Family in the event of n emergency.
- A reconnaissance trip and good maps and/or knowledge of the area are required to conduct a safe trip.
- Any permission for access needs to be obtained beforehand.
- It is your responsibility to decide if the weather conditions have altered the trip grading, as you may need to advise the participants before the trip.
- At the start point, introduce yourself, check-in all participants, collect the donation for Westpac Helicopter, check the correct equipment if necessary, and explain the nature details of the trip to all. Assign a main backup UHF channel at this point.
- Ask two older members to act as control vehicles. A “Rear Marker” and “Centre Marker” are usually best to help guide the convoy safely.
- Proceed at a legal pace that suits all participants, and keep in touch with your designated control vehicles to judge the convoy’s progress.
- It is your responsibility to assess the track conditions, and guide the group throughout the trip to ensure a safe and enjoyable outing.
- At the conclusion of the trip, check-off all participants and retrieve any loan equipment if necessary.
- Take donation money to next meeting and hand to treasurer.

Club Merchandise



Adults:

- $27 - Polo Shirts
- $30 - Jumpers
- $40 - Hoodies
- $15 - Caps
- $15 Beanies

Kids

- $22 - Polo Shirts
- $17 - T-Shirts
- $30 - Jumpers
- $35 - Hoodies

If anyone is interested in ordering merchandise please contact Treasurer – Leanne Middleton

BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

Account Name : Tamworth 4WD Club

B.S.B.: 032-621

Account Number: 895405

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU PUT YOUR NAME AS THE REFENCE SO WE KNOW WHO THE MONEY IS FOR

MEMBERSHIP FORMS

All members will need to complete a membership form when paying their annual membership fees.

This helps to keep records updated on current members and for insurance purposes.

NEW FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT MEETINGS OR CONTACT THE SECRETARY

Email: tam4wdclub@hotmail.com
: dave.maunder@gmail.com
Phone (Dave) : 0429111017
:0429656363
(Leanne) : 0408605343
Family membership: $60/year

Tamworth 4wd Club Membership Renewal/Confirmation of Details

Surname: ……

First Name: …… DOB: ……

Partner's Name: …… …… DOB: ……

Child's Name: …… DOB: ……

Child's Name: …… DOB: ……

Child's Name: …… …. DOB: ……

Residential Address:

……

……

Postal Address: ……

Which would you prefer published in the newsletter? Residential/Postal

Email Address: ……

Note:

Club Newsletters will be **emailed** to members wherever possible. If you do not want to have the newsletter emailed to you and you would prefer it by mail, please tick the box below.

☐ I wish to receive the newsletter by ordinary mail and not by email.

Phone Number: Home: …… **Work**: ……

Mobile/s: ……

Vehicle Details: Make: ……

Model: ……

Year: …… Registration: ……

Name of Relative/friend in case of emergency: ……

Emergency contact phone number: ……

Signature of Member: …… Date: ……

Signature of Partner: …… Date: ……

Please bring completed form along to the next club meeting and hand it to the secretary or send to

XXX
P.O. Box 33[illegible]
West Tamworth
NSW 2340
XXX

BANK DETAILS

Tamworth 4WD Club
BSB 032-621
Account Number 895405

Privacy Statement and Update of Member Details

Under the Commonwealth Privacy Act 2001, it is an offence to publish or distribute the personal information of any member of the Tamworth 4WD Club Inc. without the written permission of the member. Similarly, we are not permitted to publish any photographs of club member's vehicles or their families when on club trips without written permission. In order to organise club trips and events, the trip leader or event organiser needs to contact club members and we need to be able to pass your details to fellow club members. Also, we like to include trip and social reports, including photos, and promote the club at sponsor's promotion days and 4WD shows.

In order to comply with the Privacy Act and keep our records accurate, every club member needs to complete the following form and update their details:

Please answer the sections below and return ASAP:

Section 1

Please tick the statement with which you agree

☐ I/We hereby **give permission** for the Tamworth 4WD Club to include my personal details (name, address & phone? In the members list which is published each month in the newsletter and understand that copies of the newsletter are provided to club sponsors and other 4WD clubs. Or

☐ I/We **do not give permission** for the Tamworth 4WD Club to include my personal detail (name, address & phone? In the members list which is published each month in the newsletter and understand that copies of the newsletter are provided to club sponsors and other 4WD clubs.

Section 2

Please tick the statement with which you agree

☐ I/We hereby **give permission** for the Tamworth 4WD Club to publish photographs of my vehicle and family in the newsletter, website and at promotional events and understand that copies of the newsletter are provided to Club sponsors and other 4WD clubs.

Or

☐ I/We hereby **do not give permission** for the Tamworth 4WD Club to publish photographs of my vehicle and family in the newsletter, website and at promotional events and understand that copies of the newsletter are provided to Club sponsors and other 4WD clubs

Names of Members:

_____

Member's Signatures:

_____

MEMBERS CONDUCT

If the conduct of any member shall, in the opinion of the Committee, be contrary to the welfare or interest of the Club, the member may be called upon to justify and explain such conduct to a special meeting of the Committee and, if after consideration at such meeting, a majority present is of the opinion that the conduct of such member is as charged, the Committee may caution, suspend or expel such member. Any decision shall be conveyed to the member in writing by the Secretary. If the member so cautioned, suspended or expelled by the Committee wishes they may appeal in writing to the Club and request a Special General Meeting of the Club to discuss such appeal. The Special General Meeting so called my reverse of alter the Committee's decision on a two thirds majority of the members resent at such meeting. Such decision of the Special General Meeting of the Club shall be final.

History of the Tamworth 4WD Club

Tamworth Recreational 4WD Club was formed in 1976 by local Four Wheel Drive owners. It is a family orientated club and caters for family participation in recreational four wheel drive touring and camping trips into bushland areas of the great natural beauty and attraction.

Club trips can be one day or weekend drives into the state forests and national parks of the local area. Trips of longer duration to various parts of Australia (eg Simpson Desert, Fraser Island, Cape York, Kakadu just for ideas) are planned annually and in advanced. The choice of trip you take is entirely yours, from easy scenic trips to beautiful areas of near inaccessible terrain.

Other clubs activities include social outings, bush camping, bush walking, fishing, driver training days, Xmas in July, demonstrations and inter club activities.

The Objectives of the Club

- To promote safety, friendship and courtesy, both ON and OFF the road, through training, community activities, club and family touring and camping activities
- To promote and encourage family social activities and organise club tours
- To conduct meetings and classes whereby members may obtain knowledge enabling them to become proficient in handling, navigation, care and maintenance of their vehicle
- And in particular to encourage and foster the activity of recreational four wheel driving and endeavor to establish same in the eyes of various Government Departments etc (in particular the National Parks and Wildlife Service, State Forest of N.S.W) as a recognised and responsible family past time.
- To actively encourage the conservation of Australia's natural environment

Current Financial Members
Rick & Katrina Burton
Jodie Thompson
Shaun Morrison
Paul Ellison & Melinda Bridge
Chrissy & Dave Maunder
Richard Mariner
Jocelyn Spicer
Adrian Altona
Dave & Karma Walters
Aaron Walters & Nicole Ward
Sam Walters & Izzy Cleaver
Terry & Helen Collins

Club Life Members
Graeme Hodge
Phil Swindale
Bob Tallon
Leanne & Col Middleton

Sponsors
ARB Tamworth.
TJM Tamworth.

FOUR WHEEL DRIVING!!

DO IT THE RIGHT WAY

JOIN A 4WD CLUB

TAMWORTH 4WD CLUB